

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 066281  
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
USMISSION USNATO  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
USNMR SHAPE  
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 066281

EXDIS MIL ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:MPOL, NATO, GP

SUBJECT: GREECE'S RELATIONSHIP WITH NATO

REF: STATE 42503

1. TURKISH AMBASSADOR ESENBEL CALLED ON DEPARTMENT  
COUNSELOR NIMETZ MARCH 13 ON INSTRUCTIONS TO DISCUSS GREEK  
RE-INTEGRATION INTO MILITARY BRANCH OF NATO.

2. ACCORDING TO ESENBEL, DURING RECENT VISIT BY PRIME  
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PAGE 02 STATE 066281

MINISTER KARAMANLIS TO BRUSSELS, LATTER RECEIVED "PROMISE"  
FROM NATO SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS THAT GREECE WOULD BE GIVEN  
AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE SOME KIND OF SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH  
NATO. LUNS, HOWEVER, SUBSEQUENTLY TOLD TURKISH PERM REP  
KIRCA THAT HE HAD MADE NO SUCH PROMISE SINCE HE RECOGNIZED  
THIS WAS MATTER TO BE AGREED TO AMONG NATO ALLIES AS GROUP.  
ESENBEL SAID GOT HAD IMPRESSION THAT SECRETARY VANCE WAS

REPORTED TO HAVE GIVEN SIMILAR "PROMISE" TO GOG AND ASSURED GREEKS OF US SUPPORT. IT WAS GOT VIEW THAT GREECE'S FUTURE NATO RELATIONSHIP SHOULD BE A PRODUCT OF UNDERSTANDING REACHED AMONG ALL NATO MEMBERS AND THAT NEITHER LUNS NOR US NOR ANY OTHER NATO MEMBER COULD PROMISE EARLY RESOLUTION OF MATTER. ESENBEL SAID THAT GOT FAVORS A GREEK RETURN TO PAST RELATIONSHIP IN NATO. ANY MODIFICATION OF GREEK RELATIONSHIP SHOULD WEIGH RESPONSIBILITIES AND

BENEFITS AND SHOULD BE PRODUCT OF TALKS WITHIN NATO.

3. NIMETZ EXPLAINED THAT NO ONE COULD MAKE ANY PROMISES TO GOG SINCE CLEARLY A NATO CONSENSUS WOULD BE REQUISITE. THE GREEKS HAD SAID THEY WANTED TO ACCELERATE THE PACE OF THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS AND WE WERE SYMPATHETIC TO THAT OBJECTIVE. NIMETZ SAID HE HAD SPOKEN WITH GENERAL HAIG IN BRUSSELS FEB 24 ON HIS WAY BACK FROM ANKARA. SACEUR WAS WORKING HARD TO PREPARE FOR TALKS WITH GREEK AUTHORITIES, BUT HE COULD NOT IMPLEMENT ANY ARRANGEMENTS WITHOUT REPORTING BACK TO NATO. NIMETZ EXPLAINED THAT US WOULD LIKE TO SEE GREECE RETURN FULLY INTO NATO. THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO NEGOTIATE GREECE'S RETURN AND IN DOING THIS KARAMANLIS MAY HAVE TO CALL THE NEW ARRANGEMENT "SPECIAL" FOR HIS DOMESTIC POLITICAL REASONS. IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE PRE-1974 SITUATION HAD CHANGED AND THAT GREECE'S NEW STATUS IN NATO WOULD BE DIFFERENT THAN THEN. OTHER CHANGES  
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PAGE 03 STATE 066281

WOULD ALSO HAVE TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT, INCLUDING THE NEW TURKISH IZMIR NATO COMMAND. VANCE

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